

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of John Welchel W6498      Abigail      fn131SC  
Transcribed by Will Graves      rev'd 5/26/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 4]

State of Georgia, Hall County

On this \_\_ day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before Ezekiel Buffington, Joseph Dunnigan [?] and Thomas L. Tate, Judges of the Inferior Court sitting as Judges of the Court of Ordinary for said county and state now sitting John Welchel, Senior, a resident of Hall County & State of Georgia aged Seventy Six years, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: Viz, He was drafted into the service in the year seventeen hundred & seventy six that he resided in Union District South Carolina when he entered the service and was commanded by the following named officers, to wit: Capt. James Steen & Col. John Thomas and Genl. Williamson. Colonels Hammond & Neal and marched to the frontiers of Georgia to protect the settlements against the Cherokee & Creek Indians and was engaged in the following engagements to wit: 1<sup>st</sup> at Eastatoe a Cherokee Town; 2<sup>nd</sup> at War Hatchy; 3<sup>rd</sup> [at] Pool Hatchy; 4<sup>th</sup> at Saconnee; 5<sup>th</sup> [at] Sugar Town; 6<sup>th</sup> [at] Keowee; 7<sup>th</sup> [at] Toxaway and several other Indian Towns the names of which deponent does not recollect—deponent was then marched to Stono in South Carolina under Genl. Lincoln & Capt. Terrell; after the battle at Stono, marched to Jacksonborough in South Carolina thence marched up the Country between Edisto and Savannah in South Carolina under Lieut. John Floyd belonged to Col. Brannon's [sic, Thomas Brandon's] regiment from thence marched to the battle at Rocky Mount near the Eutaw Springs under the command of Genl. Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], Col. Andrew Neal being killed in this battle; was then marched to a place called the hanging Rock but was no in the engagement being in the main or principal guard; from thence was marched to King's Mountain; was at Ferguson's defeat at that place; Cols. Williams & Campbell being there with other officers whose names deponent does not recall; deponent was marched from there to the Cowpens and was in the engagement at that place under Capt. John Thompson, Col. Thomas Brannon [sic, Brandon] & Genl Morgan having the

command; deponent received several wounds in this engagement; from there marched to the Eutaw Springs and was in the engagement under Capt. Montgomery & Genl. Greene & Major Jolly; quit the service in '81; was in active service four years; That he has no documentary evidence.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ John Welchel

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Ez. Buffington, H. C.

[James Whitten, a clergyman, and Wiley E. Wood gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 8: Bible Record:

“A List of ages for John Welchel

John Welchel &c and Abigel Davis was Married on The 15<sup>th</sup> of July in the year of our Lord 1784

Samuel Welchel was Bornd on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May ...1785

John was born 27<sup>th</sup> October 1787[? last digit unclear]

Francis born 21<sup>st</sup> May 1790

William born 6<sup>th</sup> May 1793

Judith born 18<sup>th</sup> June 1797]

[fn p. 9: on April 6th, 1844 in Gilmer County Georgia, Abigail Welchel, A.D. on the 10th day of June next, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Welchel, a revolutionary war pensioner; that he died on the 14th day of March 1837 in Hall County Georgia; that she married him July 18, 1784; that they were married by Charles Miles, JP in Union District South Carolina where they resided until 1836 when they removed to Hall County Georgia.]

[fn p. 12: on March 4, 1852 in Cherokee County Georgia, Abigail Welchel executed a power and authorizing her attorney to pursue her claims for a pension.]

[fn p. 19: On September 2, 1856 in Hall County Georgia, Judith Welchel McAdams, 59, daughter of John and Abigail, made a claim stating that her father John served with his brothers, Davis, William and Francis Welchel, Jr., all sons of Francis Welchel “who was employed in attending the sick in said war.” She states that her mother died October 17, 1851 leaving only the following children surviving Mrs. Judith McAdams, John Welchel and Francis Welchel all of Georgia]

[fn p. 89]

Georgia Hall County: Personally appeared before me William Wheeler<sup>1</sup> who being duly sworn saith he has been personally acquainted with John Welchel the applicant in the foregoing Declaration for the last 60 years and that he saw him frequently during the

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<sup>1</sup> This is PROBABLY the same William Wheeler filed for a pension for his services in the Continental line in FPA W6485

Revolutionary War and particularly on the morning after the Battle at the Cowpens where he was badly wounded in so much that his life was despaired of.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd day of August 1832

S/ John Nichols, JIC

S/ William Wheeler, X his mark

[fn p. 89]

Georgia Hall County: Personally appeared before John Hames Senior, who being duly sworn saith that he was personally acquainted with John Welchel the applicant in the foregoing Declaration that he was with him at the Battle at the Eutaw Springs and saw him frequently during the war and knew that he was a vigilant and efficient man for his Country.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd of August 1832

S/ John Nichols, JIC

S/ John Hames, 8 his mark

[fn p. 96]

State of South Carolina, Union District

Be it known that before me C. H. Dillard an acting justice of the peace in & for the said District personally appeared Major Joseph McJunkin<sup>2</sup> a Resident of Union District in the ninety first year of his age being a Soldier of the American Revolution and a pensioner; and after being duly Sworn makes oath to the following statement: That during the Revolutionary War and for many years since he was personally acquainted with Dr. John Welchel that said John Welchel was of German descent which was preceiveable[sic] in conversation that the said John Welchel was a private soldier in the Revolutionary War and a friend of the Cause of Liberty and Independence and fought in the Battle of the Cowpens and many of the struggles for Liberty that the said Welchel Resided in Union District South Carolina for many years after the close of the war and then removed to the State of Georgia and as he is Informed into Hall County in said State where he died some years ago. This Deponent further says that the said Welchel was not known as Dr. Welchel until after the close of the war when he became Eminent in the Cure of Cancers and was called Doctor.

S/ Joseph McJunkin

Sworn to before me this first day of July 1845.

S/ C. H. Dillard, Magt. Union District

[fn96]

[fn 101]

State of Georgia, Murray County

Be it known that before me A. Bishop an acting Justice of the Peace in and [for] said County & State personally appeared John Hames<sup>3</sup> formerly of Lumpkin County but now a resident of this County being a Soldier of the revolutionary War and a pensioner under the act of Congress of the 7 June 1832 of the Georgia agency as appears from the original certificate in his possession and after being duly sworn according to law makes the following statement

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<sup>2</sup> [Joseph McJunkin S18118](#)

<sup>3</sup> [John Hames S16409](#)

That he lived in the same neighborhood with John Welchel and was personally acquainted with him previous to the Revolutionary [war] – that he Deponent and said Welchel served several tours together both being attached to Col. Thomas Brandon's Regiment that they both lived in Union District South Carolina at that time, Deponent recollects being in several engagements with the [said] John Welchel to wit at the Eutaw Springs – at a place called Cambridge or 96 – at Blackstock's Ford on Tiger River [sic, Tyger River] and at the Cowpens where the said Welchel received a severe wound on the head by the cut of [a] sword;

Deponent says that it was always said in the neighborhood that said John Welchel served pretty generally through the War and this Deponent concurs in that opinion.

Deponent further says that the aforesaid John Welchel is the Identical person who was placed on the Pension Rolls of the United States of the Georgia agency in Hall County under the act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832, that said John Welchel and Deponent both resided in Hall County State of Georgia at the time they were placed on the Pension Rolls. Said John Welchel died in Hall County some years ago leaving Ms. Abigail Welchel his widow whom this Deponent says he is personally acquainted with and that she is still a widow and the identical widow of the aforesaid John Welchel who is now asking a pension.

And this Deponent further says that agreeable to his recollection and the best information he has he is one hundred & six years old.

S/ John Hames, X his mark

Sworn to and Subscribed before me And I further certify that the above named Deponent John Hames is personally known to me that he is a respectable person and a credible witness. I further certify that notwithstanding his advanced age he appears to be and is so far as I am capable of Judging in full possession of his mental faculties possessing a Sound mind and recollection.

In testimony of which I have hereunto subscribed my name officially this 16 day of June 1845.

S/ A. Bishop, JP  
[Absalom Bishop]

[fn107]

State of Georgia, Murray County

Be it known that before me Absalom Bishop an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County & State personally appeared John Hames a resident of said County & State a Soldier of the Revolutionary War and a Pensioner under the act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832 of the Georgia agency. And after being duly sworn according to law makes the following Statement.

That he lived in the neighborhood of Doctor John Welchel and was personally acquainted with him previous to the commencement of the Revolutionary War that he Deponent and said John Welchel had several tours together, he thinks two or three under Captain John Thompson & Colonel Thomas Brannon or Brannom [sic, Thomas Brandon], that they both lived in Union District South Carolina at that time. Deponent recollects being in several engagements with said John Welchel to wit at the Eutaw Springs, at a place called Cambridge or Ninety Six at a place called Blackstock's Ford on

Tyger River also at the Cowpens (all in South Carolina) where the said Whelchel received a Severe wound on the head by a cut from a Sword. Deponent further says that said John Whelchel was generally in Service through the Revolutionary War, a portion of the time as a private Soldier and a portion as Surgeon or surgeon's mate. Deponent recollects to have seen said Doctor John Whelchel engaged in the capacity of Surgeon in dressing and binding of the wounds of the Soldiers and very distinctly recollects his drawing a silk handkerchief through a bullet hole in his deponent's leg the scar of which he yet shows.

Deponent further says that the aforesaid John Whelchel is the identical person who was placed on the Pension Rolls of the United States of the Georgia agency under the act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832, that said John Whelchel & this deponent both resided in Hall County State of Georgia at the time they were placed upon said Pension Rolls, that the said John Whelchel died in said Hall County some years ago. Deponent further saith that he is personally acquainted with Ms. Is Abigail Whelchel the present applicant for a Pension that she is the Identical widow of the said Dr. John Whelchel.

And this Deponent further says that agreeably to the best information in his possession he is one hundred and Six years old.

S/ John Hames, X his mark

Sworn to and Subscribed before me. And I further certify that I am personally acquainted with the above named Deponent John Hames, that he is a respectable man and a credible witness. I further certify that notwithstanding the advanced age of said Deponent he appears to be and is so far as I am able to Judge in full possession of all his mental faculties possessing a Sound & clear mind.

In testimony of which I have hereunto set my hand officially this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1845.

S/ A/ Bishop, JP

[fn110]

To the Honorable President of the Senate and the Members thereof

The Petition of John Whelchel of Union District and State aforesaid Respectfully sheweth That your petitioner served about five years in the Revolutionary War between Great Britain and these United States (then colonies of Great Britain) in the American service – that he was in the battle of the Cowpens fought in this State and served as a private soldier in Captain John Thompson's Company of infantry and Colonel Thomas Brandon's Regiment – that he received several wounds in that action from Tarleton's horsemen, severe wounds on his head and two on his shoulders – that this Deponent was left on the ground it being supposed that he would die of his wounds – that the wounds in the head opened the skull to the brains – that your petitioner is now 67 years of age and very infirm – that this Deponent has a wife 60 years old that he has his wife and himself to support & no person to assist him – that he is very poor and unable to work to support himself and wife – that the wounds in his head affect his mind & memory and now stands in need of his Country's support in his old age. Your petitioner in confidence appeals to the liberality and justice of the State who he believes will not suffer one of the defenders of her rights and who aided in procuring the blessing of liberty and independence – that

we now enjoy to go down with his gray hairs to grave in penury<sup>4</sup> and want. Your petitioner therefore prays your Honorable body will take his case into serious consideration and grant him such a pension for life as he cannot live many years as will enable him to live free from want the remnant of his days and in duty bound will ever pray.

S/ John Whelchel

We whose names are hereunto subscribed believe the facts stated by the petitioner to be true

Nathaniel Greyton

James Kennady

John Kennady

Abraham Kennady

Robert Corry

James Shatton

Isaac Greyton

Francis McKown

William McKown

James McKown

Julius Lockhart

John Morris

Gabriel Patrick, Jnr.

William Hendrick

Francis Peterson

John Patrick, Junior

Gabriel Patrick, Senior

John Williams

Robert Lipscomb

Jesse Tate

Geo. Plexco

Thos. Thompson

Isaac Peeler

James McRamson

James Tate

John Jeffries Senior

Nathaniel Jeffries Captain

E. Dawkins

John Whelchel Capt.

Robert Thompson

John Henderson

John Steen

William Mitchell, Junior

Jh Harrington

Jno Smith

Daniel Cowmore [?]

John Reidmore

State of South Carolina, Union District

Personally appeared Captain Joshua Palmer<sup>5</sup> before me and being duly sworn saith that he was in the battle of Cowpens fought in this State Duane the American & British forces – that the deponent was on the day of the battle Adjutant to Col. Thomas Brandon's Regiment in the American line – that after the battle this deponent saw John Whelchel (who was in the same Regiment as the deponent) on the ground wounded in the head. He was cut through the skull to the membrane of the brain and at that time from the severity of the wound this deponent did not expect the said John Whelchel would survive it. Sworn to and subscribed before [me] this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 1823.

S/ Wm F. Gist, Q. U.

S/ Joshua Palmer

South Carolina, Union District

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4 indigence: a state of extreme poverty or destitution; "their indigence appalled him"; "a general state of need exists among the homeless"

[wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webwn](http://wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webwn)

5 [Joshua Palmer S21912](#)

Personally before me appeared William Morehead<sup>6</sup> and after being duly sworn saith that in the year of our Lord 1781 that he was at the battle of the Cowpens in the State aforesaid and that this deponent was personally and well acquainted with John Whelchel who was also at said battle and that the said John belonged to Col. Thomas Brandon's Regiment of militia and that the said John was a private in Captain John Thomson's Company which company belonged to the aforesaid Regiment and the deponent saw the said John after the battle aforesaid lying on the battle ground very bloody and appeared to be very badly wounded and this deponent understood and believes that the said John received his wounds a sword from the enemy.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 1823.

S/ Samuel Jefferies, JP

S/ Wm Morehead, Sr.

State of South Carolina, Union District

Personally came William McKown before me the subscribing Justice and being duly sworn saith that [on] the day of the battle of Cowpens he saw John Whelchel who then belonged to Captain Thompson's Company of Colonel Thomas Brandon's Regiment and that the said John Whelchel was by appearance exceedingly wounded by as this deponent believes the Sword of Tarleton's Dragoons and that Dr. Whelchel said that he believed his skull was broken in three places. Sworn & subscribed this seventh of September 1823 before me.

S/ Nicholas Corry, JP

S/ William McKown

[fn p. 114]

State of Georgia, Hall County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Inferior Court in and for said County John Whelchel who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the period[s] mentioned below and in the following grades. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 1777 I was drafted into the Service as a private Soldier under the command of Captain James Steen & attached to Colonel John Thomas' Regiment General Williamson being the Commander and Chief and marched to Princes Fort in Spartanburg District South Carolina, remained there about three weeks then marched into the Cherokee nation and was at the burning of the following Indian towns viz. Eastatowee, Warhatchy, Pollhatchy, Suckanny, Toxaway, Sugar Town, Choty and Keowee where we took up headquarters I was three months and 10 days in this expedition.

About the first of March 1778 I was drafted into Service again as a private Soldier under Captain James Terrell and attached to Colonel William Wofford's Regiment General Williamson being the commander in Chief and marched to a place called the Cupboard or Cupboard Creek near Augusta in the State of Georgia. We made this place our headquarters or place of Rendezvous and was engaged in scouting principally for three months. I was then disbanded and returned home having been absent three months and 10 days.

About the first of April 1779 I was again drafted into the Service as a private Soldier under the Command of Captain James Terrell and attached to Colonel Brannon's

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6 [William Moorhead \(Morehead\) S18127](#)

[sic, Thomas Brandon's] Regiment and joined General Lincoln's Army near Augusta and marched to Stono in South Carolina but was not in the engagement at that place being in the Hospital Sick, after recovering sufficient strength to march I was marched to Parkers ferry on Edisto River I was there discharged and returned home having served three months and 15 days.

Some time in the month of July 1779<sup>7</sup> I volunteered as a private Soldier in a foot company under the command of Captain John Thompson and was attached to Colonel Andrew Neal's Regiment General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] being commander in chief and marched to a place called Rocky Mount it being a house or Fort in the possession of the British we attacked the Fort but could not succeed in taking it Colonel Andrew Neel was killed at this place and some of our Soldiers wounded (my Captain from some cause I don't now recollect what left us before we arrived at the Fort) I was then marched to the mouth of Fishing Creek and stopped to eat but before our vittles were cooked a party the enemy under the command of Colonel Rodden [sic Rawdon] came upon us and we gave up the ground leaving our provisions and some Baggage, two of our men who were acting as spies were taken by [the] enemy and hanged. We then marched to a place called the hanging Rock where our Army met the British and an engagement took place, I was not in this engagement being on the main guard, shortly after this engagement I was disbanded and returned home having served three months.

I then went to Rowan County North Carolina and at one Colonel Locke's joined the Army under the command of Colonel Williams [James Williams] and was placed under the command of Captain John Thompson again and marched to the Island Ford on the Catawba River and from thence to the Flint Hills remained there about one week and from thence to a place called the Cowpens where we joined the Army under Colonel Campbell who commanded what was then called the over mountain men. We then marched to the Cherokee Ford on Broad River and from thence to King's Mountain and was in the front of the engagement and saw Colonel Ferguson fall. Colonel Williams was killed shortly after the enemy hoisted their Flag as an evidence of their Surrender. We remained on & camped on the battleground that night, and the next day we started with the prisoners and took them to Colonel Walker's place on Cain Creek in Rutherford County North Carolina remained there about a week or 10 days and from thence marched to Bickerstaff's old place where the prisoners were tried as Tories & 39 of whom were found guilty and nine hanged, my Captain having returned home I joined a Battalion under the command of Major Singleton and was put under the command of Captain Whitesides and often Scouting through the Country a short time I returned home having served four months and 20 days.

In December 1780 I was called out by Captain John Thompson as a private Soldier and attached to Colonel Brandon's Regiment and was stationed between Enoree and Pacolet Rivers in South Carolina to protect the Settlements, after remaining there some weeks we were driven by Colonel Tarleton, we retreated to where Colonel Morgan was at Grindal Shoals and joined the Army and marched to the battle 2 miles above the Cowpens and the next morning just after the sun had risen was attacked by Tarleton's horse in which engagement I was severely wounded receiving four cuts on the head and three or four stabs the scars of which I yet carry, I was disabled and unfit for service

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7 The events described occurred in 1780, not 1779.



about 40 days from the wounds, this was a tour of three months, the battle was on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 1781.

Shortly after getting well I was drafted into Service as a private Soldier under Captain Robert Montgomery in and a Major Jolly the command of our Regiment we marched to Witnessed Graham be and crossed Broad River and then went to East Granby took up quarters and remained there about one month from thence we marched to where General Greene lay and joined his Army and went to the Eutaw Springs battle I was in this engagement and saw Colonel Washington make his discharge at the time he was taken by the British. Shortly after the engagement I returned home having served three months, and for such service I claim a pension, and for the time during which the service was performed I was not employed in any Civil pursuit. I was born in our moral County State of Virginia on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October 1756. I have no record of my age except one made by myself since I arrived to the age of maturity.

I recollect the following regular officers to wit Captain Cummings, Thomas Prince who was killed in the Stono battle but cannot recollect what commission he held also recollect Colonel William Henderson, Colonel Malmedy who I think was a French officer.

Major William P. Reed, Majors Sevier, Clark, the Reverend James Whitten & Wiley E. Wood all persons to whom I am well known & who can testify as to my character for veracity etc..

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 29<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833.

S/ J. M. McAfee, JIC

S/ John Whelchel

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$73.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 22 months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.